

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

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J.D.C. AND OTHER OVERSEAS RELIEF CAMPAIGN TO BE LAUNCHED WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 25

SHAVUOTH (FEAST OF WEEKS)

JUNE 3 AND 4

The Festival of Shavuoth (Feast of Weeks) begins on the sixth day of Sivan. It is ushered in this year on Thursday evening, June 2, and lasts for two days. Yizkor services are held on the second day.

This holiday is one of the Shalosh Regalim or Pilgrimage Festivals (the others being Passover and Succoth) when the Jewish farmers of old from every town and hamlet came streaming to Jerusalem with their first ripened crops, their gifts to God for a plentiful harvest. It is, therefore, also called Hag Hakatzir, meaning 'Harvest Festival' and Hag Habikkurim—'Festival of First Fruits.' Another name for Shavuoth is Pentecost, derived from the Greek word meaning the fiftieth day. Shavuoth falls on the fiftieth day from the second day of Passover.

To commemorate our ancient harvest festival, we decorate our Synagogues and homes with sheaves of wheat and flowers. In Israel today, the different colonies send their first fruits, and amid joyous celebration present them to the Jewish National Fund.

According to Rabbinic tradition, Shavuoth also commemorates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and is, therefore, known too, at Zman Matan Torosenu (the season of Law-Living.)

Thus Shavuoth, in addition to completing the harvest season which began on the Passover, symbolizes the complete emancipation of our people. On Passover they were physically liberated from bondage and on Shavuoth they were spiritually freed. Passover commemorates the birth of Jewish nationhood, and Shavuoth commemorates the birth of the Jewish religion. Together they form the eternal synthesis of religion-nationalism which has served as the foundation of Jewish life.

On the first eve of Shavuoth, learned men study the Tikkun, an abridgement of the Bible, Talmud and the Cabbalistic writings in order to review the most important teachings of Judaism. The Book

GUEST ARTIST



REGINA REZNIK

Metropolitan Opera Dramatic Soprano

1949 CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

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Committee Chairmen: Arrangements: H. Palef; Captain of Teams: S. Lepofsky, K.C. Publicity: A. H. Lief, K.C.; Speakers: Rabbi B. Kravetz; Special Names: M. Betcherman, M. Zagerman; Supervisor of Contributions: L. Coplan; Tickets: A. Lithwick, S. Spevak; Youth and Civil Service Division: B. Loeb, P. Strichen; Women's Division: Mrs. D. Loeb, Mrs. S. Lithwick. Executive Committee: A. L. Achbar, I. L. Arron, I. B. Bodnoff, S. Caplan, M. Cohen, D. Epstein, J. Feller, M. N. Drazin, E. Gittleson, S. Greenberg, H. J. Harris, M. Kizell, S. Kronick, M. Mirsky, H. Pass, B. Sanders, I. Stone, D. Zelikovitz, N. Zelikovitz.

OBJECTIVE SET AT \$50,000.00

The 1949 Ottawa Campaign for the J.D.C. and Other Overseas Relief Agencies will be officially inaugurated with a Dinner on Wednesday evening, May 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chateau Laurier Hotel. Ottawa Jewry will thus join communities throughout the country who are making an all-out effort to raise \$2,500,000.00 for the relief, rehabilitation and transportation of the remnants of European Jewry to Israel and other countries.

Ottawa's quota this year has been set at \$50,000.00. Participating agencies are the J.D.C., the J.I.A.S., Israeli Mo'Ess Chitten and European Mo'Ess Chitten.

On Monday evening, May 23, a Pre-Campaign Dinner Rally will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Vestry Rooms of the Adath Jeshurun Congregation, King Edward Ave. Mr. Allan Bronfman, eminent leader in Canadian Jewry who was recently honoured by the French Government with the award of 'Chevalier de la Legion D'Honneur' will be the guest speaker.

Mr. Harold J. Fishbein, Director in Germany of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Organization and later the International Refugee Organization will be the featured speaker at the Campaign Dinner on May 25.

As Director of UNRRA and IRO in Germany from 1945 to 1948, Mr. Fishbein saw at first hand the gigantic relief program of the J.D.C. in operation. Keen personal understanding coupled with a sympathetic understanding of the needs of the concentration camp survivors, eminently qualifies him to interpret the situation in Europe.

Guest artist Regina Reznik, young Jewish dramatic soprano of the Metropolitan Opera Company literally skyrocketed to fame after winning the Auditions of the Air in 1944. American born and American trained, Miss Reznik has often been called most representative of the achievement of American youth in music.

She has won wide acclaim for her performance of the leading roles in "Carmen," "Aida," "Madame Butterfly," "Don Giovanni" and many others. After a performance in Cleveland, a reviewer wrote

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Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*Published Monthly by***THE OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY
COUNCIL**

451 Rideau Street

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SHAVUOTH (FEAST OF WEEKS)*(Continued from Page 1)*

of Ruth is read during Shavuoth for it gives a colorful description of the grain harvest in ancient times. In addition, it relates that Ruth was the great-grandmother of King David who was born and died on Shavuoth and who embraced the faith of Israel even as the Jewish people accepted the Torah on this day.

On the first day of Shavuoth, prior to the reading of the Torah, an introductory poem called "Akdomuth" is read. An English translation by Israel Zangwill reads in part:

"Could we with ink the ocean fill
 Were every blade of grass a quill
 Were the world of parchment made
 And every man a scribe by trade
 To write the love of G-d above
 Would drain the ocean dry;
 Nor would the scroll contain the whole
 Though stretched from sky to sky."

As for the Shavuoth menu, dairy foods, cheese cakes and "blintzes" are served. According to one explanation, dairy food and honey are eaten because the Torah is compared to milk and honey which both sustain and sweeten life. Many eat the triangular krepiach symbolizing the three fold Bible (Torah, Prophets, Writings) given to the three fold people (composed of Priests, Levites, Israelites) by the third child (Moses, after Aaron and Miriam) in the third month of the year. Thus the food of the day is made symbolic of the Shavuoth festival.

Today, with happy hearts the Jewish people can once again celebrate the ancient harvest season on their ancestral soil.

REGINA REZNIK*(Continued from Page 1)*

"She has everything—a powerful voice, a strange and moving dramatic quality, flexibility, innate musicianship and understanding that comes from both the heart and the head."

Miss Reznik's program will include a number of Hebrew and Yiddish songs as well as concert renditions.

BOOK NOTES*By Deborah Lifschutz*

TRIAL AND ERROR. The Autobiography of Chaim Weizmann. Harper and Bros. New York. 1949. 843 pp. \$5.00.

Dr. Weizmann, Scientist, Statesman and Jew, here tells the story of his life, his youth, his education, his love of Zion from early childhood, and his growth to leadership in the Zionist world. This is a human document in the development of a land and a nation. In these pages are recorded many of the incidents heretofore unknown by many, that added to the successes and failures, to the delays and hindrances, of the achievement of the Jewish goal—nationhood.

While we do not agree with Dr. Weizmann's attitude toward certain leaders, and while we feel that a number of personalities (like our own late Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Freiman) should not have been omitted from this volume, no man is perfect, and this man's patience, his unfailing love for his people, his dedication to the Zionist ideal, kept him tenaciously at his post, until the Jewish people attained their goal. It is in one of his final chapters, that Dr. Weizmann, with prophetic zeal describes the goal of the Jewish State, toward which it will work, and which it will have to achieve through trial and error, and experience—"the building of a high civilization, based upon the austere Standards of Jewish Ethics. And, if the Jewish people center their activities on genuine values, whether in industry, agriculture, science, literature or art, then G-d will look down benignly on His children, who after a long wandering have come home to serve Him with a psalm on their lips and a spade in their hands, reviving their old country and making it a center of human civilization".

SHALOM MEANS PEACE. By Robert St. John. Doubleday and Co. Inc. New York. 1949. 335 pp.

Robert St. John, one of America's expert reporters gives us the birth of Israel, by relating to us the intimate stories of the people who participated in the struggle for nationhood. This is a human document. Robert St. John has spoken to lawyers, doctors, soldiers, farmers, statesmen, and from each one, has caught the spirit and desire of the Jewish nation—peace. The stories grip the heart, the anecdotes reveal the character and the incidents the courage and determination of a people. St. John shows a keen understanding of this people and a feeling for their problems that is indeed unusual. His dedication alone gives the spirit of the book.

"To the Children of Mishmar Haemek,

Who Never Made the Forest;

To Yitsak and Benjamin, who had just begun to live again;

To David Courtney who calls Them Such Sweet People

To the Polish Rabbi who was an oil Painter;

To Zopora, Bird in Flight,

And to others, Everywhere,

Who Hunger and Thirst

For Shalom

This Book is Humbly Dedicated.

So delightfully warm and pleasant is the reading of this volume, that one wishes that Mr. St. John had remained in Israel longer, and so could have met more of the little people that worked together to build a nation.

QUESTIONS ON SHAVUOTH

1. In what Hebrew month does Shavuoth fall?
2. Why is this festival called the Feast of Weeks?
3. What is the agricultural significance of Shavuoth?
4. What great event in the early history of our people does Shavuoth recall?
5. Near what mountain did the Israelites receive the Ten Commandments?
6. Who brought the Tablets of the Law to the Israelites?
7. How long did Moses remain on Mount Sinai before he brought down the Ten Commandments?
8. By what three other names is Shavuoth called?
9. How is Shavuoth observed in the home?
10. What special book is read in the Synagogue on Shavuoth?

*(Answers on Page 4)***SYNAGOGUE-CENTRE****GENERAL MEETING PLANNED
FOR MAY 31**

An important General Meeting of Contributors to the Synagogue and Jewish Community Centre of Ottawa will be held on Tuesday evening, May 31, at 8:30 p.m., in the Vestry Rooms of the Adath Jeshurun Congregation, King Edward Avenue.

A formal notice of meeting will shortly be mailed to all contributors.

**VAAH HA'IR QUARTERLY
MEETING TO BE HELD JUNE 7**

A Quarterly General Meeting of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'ir will be held on Tuesday evening, June 7, at 8:30 p.m., in the Auditorium of the Talmud Torah, 453 Rideau Street.

Members of the Vaad Ha'ir will shortly receive a formal notice of meeting.

KINDLING THE SABBATH AND HOLIDAY LIGHTS

For Shabbos

"L'Hadlik Neir Shel Shabbos"

For Yomtov

"L'Hadlik Neir Shel Yomtov"

"Shehecheyonu"

SCHEDULE

May 27	8:21 p.m.
June 2 (Erev Shavuoth)	8:26 p.m.
June 3 (Erev 2nd Day Shavuoth)	8:27 p.m.
June 10	8:32 p.m.
June 17	8:36 p.m.
June 24	8:37 p.m.

WEEKLY PORTIONS

May 28

Torah—"Bamidbar"—(Numbers 1:1 - 4:20).
Haphtorah—I Samuel 20:18 - 42.

June 3

First Day of Shavuoth

Torah—Exodus 19 - 20; Numbers 28:26-31.
Haphtorah—Ezekiel I.

June 4

Second Day of Shavuoth

Torah—Deut. 14:22-16:17; Numbers 28:26 - 31.

Haphtorah—Habakkuk 2:20 - 3.

June 11

Torah—"Naso"—(Numbers 4:21 - 7:89).

Haphtorah—Judges 13:2 - 25.

June 18

Torah—"Behaaloscho"—(Numbers 8:1 - 12:16).

Haphtorah—Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7.

June 25

Torah—"Shelach Lecho"—(Numbers 13:1 - 15:41).

Haphtorah—Tashua 2:1 - 24.

(Memorial Services — Yizkor — on 2nd
Day of Shavuoth — Saturday, June 4)

CAMP B'NAI B'RITH OPENS JULY 3

Sunday, July 3 will mark the opening of the fourth season at Camp B'nai B'rith on its present site. The Camp is being operated for a six week period this year from July 3 to August 14.

Four new type cabins have already been constructed to accommodate the youngest campers. These are in addition to the cabins erected previously.

Registration this year has exceeded available accommodation. In all, nearly 160 children have been booked, which represents an increase of 40% over last year's figures.

Registration for the last three week period has already been closed. Depending on their ages, there is still room for several campers during the first three week period. Contact Hy Hochberg, telephone 3-9379 for particulars.

The Board of Directors wish to thank parents for their excellent response and the community at large for their moral and financial support.

J. D. C. GUEST SPEAKER



HAROLD J. FISHBEIN, Director of UNRRA and IRO in Germany from 1945 to 1948 who will be the Guest Speaker at the Inaugural Dinner of the 1949 J.D.C. and Other Overseas Relief Campaign on May 25.

SHAVUOTH

Shavuoth is the Feast of Weeks—

You'll find with careful counting

From first of Pesach to the time—

The weeks to seven amounting.

And teacher told us how the Jews

Were in the desert tramping,

And when they came to Sinai's Mount

They rested there for camping.

But when they heard the Shofar sound,

And saw the mountain shaking

And smoking like a furnace, too,

With fear they all were quaking.

Then Moses climbed the mountain-side

And soon from sight was hidden.

While they remained at Sinai's foot

As they, by G-d were bidden.

"Our Leader's been so long up there,"

The people were declaring,

When down the mountain Moses came,

The Ten Commandments bearing.

So that is why we keep this day,

Because on it were given

Those Ten Commandments that G-d
wrote

Upon the sixth of Sivan.

Miriam Myers.

ISRAELI STAMPS AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTORS

Philatelists are advised that new issues of postage stamps recently released by the Government of Israel are available from M. Stevens, P.O. Box 3477, Cape Town, South Africa.

ADATH JESHURUN SISTERHOOD HOLD ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The Annual Luncheon of the Adath Jeshurun Sisterhood was held in the Vestry Rooms of the Synagogue on May 18. Dr. Reva Gerstein, well-known lecturer was the Guest Speaker. Her subject was "The Woman's Role in the Present-Day World." Dr. Gerstein was introduced by Mrs. H. Gould and thanked by Mrs. B. Goldberg. Mrs. L. Freiman presided.

The following Executive was elected for the 1949-50 season: President: Mrs. H. Gould; 1st Vice-President: Mrs. H. N. Pearl; 2nd Vice-President: Mrs. K. Smith; 3rd Vice-President: Mrs. J. Shmelzer; Treasurer: Mrs. S. J. Ritt; Asst. Treasurer: Mrs. H. Cooper; Recording Secretary: Mrs. J. B. Dover; Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. A. Hurtig; Social Secretary: Mrs. N. Diamond.

Committee Chairmen: House: Mrs. L. Pétégorsky, Mrs. G. Friedman; Membership: Mrs. M. R. Berke; Ways and Means: Mrs. B. Goldberg, Mrs. L. Freiman; Telephone: Mrs. W. Goldblum; Program: Mrs. M. Cohen; Refreshments: Mrs. N. Kizell, Mrs. N. Schechter; Decorations: Mrs. S. Lepofsky; Succoth Party: Mrs. B. Harris; Simchas Torah: Mrs. L. Mirsky; Publicity: Mrs. M. Berlin.

YOUTH RECREATION CENTRE CLOSES FOR SUMMER

On May 21, the Youth Recreation Centre sponsored by the Ottawa Vaad Ha'ir and operated in the Vestry Rooms of the Adath Jeshurun Congregation, closed its doors for the duration of the summer.

Opened in March of this year to serve teenagers and adolescents until such time as the first portion of the Synagogue-Centre project is completed, the Recreation Centre proved to be an outstanding success. Each evening saw from 30 to 50 young people in attendance and on Saturday and Sunday evenings, figures jumped to over 150.

The Adath Jeshurun Congregation, the Youth Committee of the Vaad Ha'ir and the Youth Council are to be congratulated for their far-sightedness and exemplary conduct of this newest youth venture in the community.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES JUNE 12

The Closing Exercises of the Ottawa Hebrew Sunday School will be held on Sunday morning, June 12 at 11:00 a.m. in the Assembly Hall of the Osgoode St. Public School.

General proficiency awards and prizes will be presented. Parents and friends are cordially invited to attend.

BAR-MITZVAH**Ronald Sheldon Goldberg**

Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. George J. Goldberg on the occasion of the Bar-Mitzvah of their son Ronald Sheldon, which will be celebrated Saturday morning, June 11 at the Adath Jeshurun Congregation.

CRADLE ROLL

Baby daughter Joan Charlotte (Shayne Cherna) born April 6 in Toronto to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brodie (nee Shirley Zagerman).

Baby son Barry (Berchik) born April 4 to Mr. and Mrs. Benish Cantor (nee Sarah Cohen).

Baby daughter Beverly born April 27 in Montreal to Mr. and Mrs. Sidney B. Cohen (nee Blanche Wolf).

Baby daughter Rhoda (Reisel) born April 3 in Montreal to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Dobrinsky (nee Sarah Shabinsky).

Baby daughter Susan Hope (Shifra Hoda) born May 7 to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Finkelstein (nee Bessie Fireman).

Baby daughter Karen Joy (Chaye) born April 23 to Mr. and Mrs. Irving Goodman (nee Sarah Mayberger).

Baby daughter Sandra Diane (Sarah Dovasha) born May 5 to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gordon (nee Adele Lief).

Baby daughter Helen Shulamith (Chaye) born April 27 to Dr. and Mrs. Morris Katz (nee Sophie Halpern).

Baby son Leonard (Leibel) born April 2 to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lazarus (nee Ethel Zychuk).

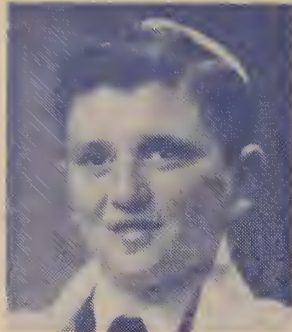
Baby son Stephen Joseph (Shmuel Yosef) born April 17 in Montreal to Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin A. Levitan (nee Sar-etta Rill).

Baby son Paul Benjamin (Pesach Benjamin) born April 29 to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lobel (nee Goldie Halpern).

Baby son Joel (Yakkov) born April 28 to Mr. and Mrs. George Mendelsohn (nee Dorothy Kufsky).

Baby daughter Jane Louise (Sima Retza) born April 20 to Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Mirsky (nee Barbara Martin).

Baby son Howard Stephen (Chaim Ksiel) born March 29 to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rothman (nee Ruth Parnass).

BAR-MITZVAH**Norton Hertz Lithwick**

Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Irving Lithwick on the occasion of the Bar-Mitzvah of their son Norton Hertz, which will be celebrated Saturday morning, June 25 at the Adath Jeshurun Congregation.

Baby son Marvin Alvin Martin (Menachem Mendel Moshe Avrom) born April 5 to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Schwartz (nee Vera Zitomir).

Baby daughter Eileen Helen (Yochevet) born April 20 to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Segall (nee Mary Wolfe).

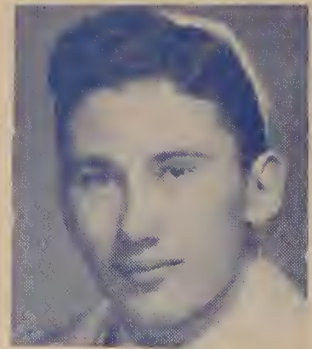
Baby daughter Elaine Esther (Esther Dina) born May 6 to Mr. and Mrs. Max Silver (nee Ann Dworkin).

Baby son Eric Kenneth (Hersch Chaim) born March 11 in Montreal to Mr. and Mrs. Morton Slone (nee Phyllis Gold).

FROM THE J.D.C. ANNUAL REPORT 1948

A summary statement of expenses of the J.D.C. as given in the 1948 annual report follows:

The total spent was \$70,600,700 divided as follows: Western Europe (Belgium, France, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain) - \$6,321,000; D. P. Countries (Austria, Germany, Italy, Cyprus) - \$13,365,000; Eastern Europe and Balkans (Bulgaria, Greece, Poland, Hungary, Roumania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia) - \$16,051,000; Other European Countries (Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey) - \$1,602,500; Non-European Countries (Central and South America, China, North Africa, Philippines, Yemen) - \$1,891,400; Emigration and Relief in Transit - \$10,910,000; Reconstruction - \$4,500,000; Relief in kind - \$8,100,000; Cultural and Religious Aid, Passover relief - \$1,822,800; Co-operating organizations, SOS collection, Children's summer camps and miscellaneous - \$1,630,500; Operating and service costs (Administrative, Information and Community Service, Junior Division, Public Relations, Special Activities, etc. - New York executive and overseas offices) - \$4,356,000.

BAR-MITZVAH**Mark David Molot**

(Photo by Marvin Flatt)

Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Molot on the occasion of the Bar-Mitzvah of their son Mark David, which will be celebrated Saturday morning, June 18 at the Agudath Achim Congregation.

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations are extended on the engagements of:

Edythe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Daniels, formerly of Karibou, Maine to Gordon, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Shore.

Sylvia, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. Weiner to Ralph, son of Mrs. S. Saslove and the late Mr. Saslove.

ANSWERS TO SHAVUOTH QUESTIONS

1. Sivan, which is the third month in the Hebrew calendar.
2. Because Shavuoth occurs seven weeks after the Passover festival.
3. Shavuoth was observed as an agricultural feast in Palestine and marked the beginning of the wheat harvest.
4. The giving of the Law to the Israelites.
5. Mount Sinai.
6. Moses.
7. Forty days and forty nights.
8. Hag Haktzir, Hag Habikkurim and Zman Matan Torosenu.
9. The home is decorated with green plants and flowers and dairy dishes are served.
10. The Book of Ruth.

SADNESS

The Community mourns the recent loss of the late

Louis Baker
Joseph Herman
Louis Leikin
Dr. Henry H. Loeb
Libby Rose
Dr. Harry Winter

May their memory be a blessing. May the Almighty comfort their loved ones.